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The Violence and Uprising of Slaves

Slavery is no doubt a very important part of America’s history. There are many results of slavery, some violent and some nonviolent. There are many different ways to approach the topic, but in the cast of the New York slave revolt of 1712, violence is the prevailing choice. This violent rebellion, which took place in New York, is one of the major uprisings of slaves in the 1700’s. Throughout this paper, I will be telling you the basics of the New York slave revolt of 1712, the importance of the event, and what happened because of it.

First, I am going to tell you some of the basics of the New York slave revolt of 1712. It was April 6, 1712 and 25 African slaves met at a tavern, planning to rebel against unjust laws. They were armed with clubs and guns. “25 Africans revolted on April 6, 1712 by setting fire to houses” (Slave Revolt). After the rebellion, six of the 25 slaves committed suicide; the other nineteen were captured and executed later on. This revolt was very violent, but it proved a strong point that slaves were fed up with the harsh laws and punishments.

The violence that the slaves showed through their revolt was very important at the time. It showed that the slaves were willing to take risks for their rights, and that they were tired of being mistreated. “Harsh laws were placed on slaves after the revolt. No more than 3 slaves could meet at a time” (PBS). The revolt showed, at the time, that slaves were willing to be violent for their rights. It was very important because it set an example of what would happen if slaves did not get their rights, it is somewhat like the slaves were trying to scare whites into giving African-Americans their rights.

The New York slave revolt of 1712 is so important that it may have even created the entire future of slaves. I think that the revolt may have influenced the future of slaves because it may have gotten slaves their rights. If this revolt didn’t get slaves their rights, it definitely set the example for other revolts and rebellions that would come in the future. Eventually, riots along with peaceful speeches, boycotts, and marches got slaves their rights. This is also affected by multiple leaders during the civil rights movement such as Malcolm X, James Baldwin, and perhaps the most famous, Martin Luther King Jr. “New York had a large population of slaves”(PBS). This quote shows that there was a decent amount of slaves, who obviously all wanted to have equal rights, to help Africans get their rights. One way or another, this revolt helped get slaves their rights.

The New York slave revolt of 1712 was a very important event during the 1700’s. The revolt was very violent, and it clearly stated that slaves were desperate for rights. It was very important at the time because it set the example for future rebellions, and it perhaps is the reason that African-Americans have their rights today. If this event had never occurred, protests, riots, and revolts could’ve been much different. The New York slave revolt of 1712 is one of the most important moments for African-Americans in the 1700’s.